

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 3-7 and 15-21 are pending in the application.

**Claim Rejections**

**A) Prophet**

Claims 1, 3, 7, 15-17 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Prophet. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 1 recites that the second resin layer is laminated to the first resin layer at least at an interior portion of the cover, away from the edges of the cover. For example, as shown in the non-limiting embodiment of Figs. 1 and 2 of the present application, the first and second resin layers 26, 24 are laminated together not just at the ends, but at an interior portion. The Examiner asserts that element 14 of Prophet constitutes the claimed first resin layer and element 12 constitutes the claimed second resin layer. Also, the Examiner asserts that the second resin layer 12 has protruding portions at its ends. Apparently, the Examiner considers the sides of the resin layer 12 as protruding from its center/back. Even if the Examiner's assertions regarding these elements were correct, these alleged resin layers 12, 14 are laminated only at their ends. They are not laminated together at an interior portion, as claimed. Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable over Prophet. Independent claim 15 is allowable at least for reasons similar to claim 1.

Claims 3 and 7 depend from claim 1 and claims 16, 17 and 21 depend from claim 15. Accordingly, these claims are allowable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies.

**B) Walsh**

Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 15-17 and 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Walsh (U.S. Patent No. 4,654,761). Applicants respectfully traverse.

The Examiner asserts that Walsh element 40 constitutes a first resin layer laminated to a second resin layer 42. The Examiner also asserts that Walsh has protruding portions at its ends. (See Figs. 2-4 and 6). However, even if Walsh elements 40 and 42 could be considered first and second resin layers these layers are laminated together only at their ends. Accordingly, claims 1 and 15 are allowable over Walsh at least for reasons similar to the reasons they are allowable over Prophet. Particularly, they are allowable at least because Walsh does not teach resin layers laminated together at an interior portion, as claimed.

Claims 3 and 5-7 depend from claim 1 and claims 16, 17 and 19-21 depend from claim 15. Accordingly, these claims are allowable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies.

**C) Prophet or Walsh**

Claims 4 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Prophet or Walsh. Claim 4 depends from claim 1 and claim 18 depends from claim 15. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are allowable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies.

**Conclusion**

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

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Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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